

Essay

How can corruption in Public institutions be reduced?

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Introduction:-

In general terms corruption is a deliberate and intentional exploitation of one's position, status or resources directly or indirectly for personal aggrandisement whether it be in terms of material gain or enhancement of power, prestige or influence beyond what is legitimate or sanctioned by commonly accepted norms to the detriment of the interests of other persons or the community as a whole. As for example, a income tax officer, can take bribe for not filing the taxes of a business man.

Public Institutions do corruption because of economic moorings. As their salaries are inadequate and the officers are not happy with this. Thus the standard of living has suffered an eclipse. So they take illegal gratification to maintain their standard of living. As the population is rising the issue of employment is rising. As the Santham

committee stated, possession of larger amount of unaccounted money by various persons including those belonging to the industrial sector.

The Sociological factor of reducing corruption in the public official should never be influenced by the wealth of other industrialists. While the Government can give them a social class to maintain their standard. If the standard are not maintained they start doing corruption. For example, if a public official is attending a lavish party then he/she needs a beautiful car to impress the guest and maintain its standard.

The anti-corruption bodies should be independent enough to catch the offenders or corrupt officials.

The anti-corruption body should be empowered enough to do the job. However, their perks should be adequate so that they do not enter in corruption.

The procedural improvement is needed, the poor anti-corruption laws also cause corruption in public service. For example, in Railway Corruption Enquiry Committee in India revealed a lacunae in the rules and regulations which lead to corruption. Thus creation corruption, while the rules and regulations should be good and should not content vague-ness.

Ensuring education at every level, so the people should have the knowledge of rules and regulation. But also know how to deal with public officials. As the Bulk of people in the developing-democracies are illiterate. The public officials take advantage of the common man. As Railway corruption enquiry committee observed, citizens are of right to know that how servant distributed and used the public fund.

The public official should not come in any political influence to do their work. Unfortunately in any democratic and developing country the corruption will not end as the ruling party influence the other branches of the government to do their work.

As the Transparency index report 2023 Pakistan scored 29 out of 100 countries.

As Pakistan still lack the transparency in every institution.

The Should be public and private partnership in reduction of corruption. The industrial and commercial class can play an important role to remove the corrupt agent to end corruption in public service. For example, the trade association of Pakistan can help to fight against corruption.

The Administrative accountability is necessary in public administration in a democratic government. According to prof. Pfiffner, Accountability refers to the formal and specific location of responsibility. In modern times, bureaucracy has become the most powerful branch of the government. If such powerful bureaucracy is left unchecked it becomes despotic, endangering to usurp the rights of citizens.

Internal Accountability, is exercised by Superior over the Subordinates within the chain of hierarchy in the executive branch of government. It consists of directing, regulating, supervising, advising, inspecting and evaluating.

The administrative process, In a parliamentary system, cabinet is answerable to the parliament. Prime Minister directs the ministers; who are in-charge of their respective department and are responsible for the working.

The whole work reviewed by Prime Minister.

The Annual Confidential Reports, Superior officers prepare annual confidential reports (ACRs) of their subordinates every year.

The Budgetary control. The ministry of finance prepare budget, and operations of the budgetary sanctions and appropriations.

The External control is fitted outside the administrative machinery and works with the constitution framework of the system. It is exercised by the external bodies such as legislature and judiciary.

The Legislative control, public accountability & the authority of the legislature to empower, limit, investigate and censure the executive branch.

The other one is Question and Answer Session, first hour of every day sitting of legislature is known as the question-hour.

The ministers are bound to answer these questions. The purpose of questions is to elicit information on the working of administrative department.

The judicial control, means the power of court to keep the decisions and acts of administrative of fiscal with the bounds of law. The main purpose of judicial control, is to determine the constitutionally and legality of administrative act of public administrators, and thus protect the rights and liberty of citizens from the wrongful acts of government officials. For example in the land mark case of Marbury v. Madison U.S Supreme Court observed that the president of U.S.A cannot give order in the ultra vires, and and it should be in within the limits.

The public control, it means that every popular government is ultimately responsible to the public, through Election, pressure group and public opinions.

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In the end, The provision of proper conditions of service, viz., healthy home and office environments, adequate salaries and pension benefits, proper promotion facilities, occasional raise in Dearness allowance to neutralize the rising price index, opportunities for mobility can help in eradication of corruption on economic grounds. A long term approval may also be envisaged. The values of life must be changed, private property should cease to be the symbol of status and power.